



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7708 | FAX (517) 373.1450

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/)

For Immediate Release  
March 28, 2006

Contact: Jon Cool  
(517) 373-7708

## **Gilbert bill to protect children from sexual predators passes Senate**

**LANSING** – Legislation designed to give judges and law enforcement officials a powerful new weapon to protect children from sexual predators was passed by the Senate today, said Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac.

“We are committed to protecting children in as many ways as we can, and this legislation passed today is a great addition to our toolbox,” Gilbert said. “Serious crimes committed against our children deserve serious punishments. Keeping predators off the streets permanently will help ease the fears of both students and parents.”

Gilbert’s bill (SB 718) is part of a package that requires repeat sexual offenders convicted of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree to serve a life sentence without a chance of parole if their victims were under the age of 13.

“It is only right that we keep these predators off the streets and away from our children,” Gilbert said. “If they’re convicted twice for hurting a child they are a menace to society and do not deserve another chance.”

SBs 718, 717 and 709 will now go to the House of Representatives for consideration.

###